

Appl. No. : 10/530,781  
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#### AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

**Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 21 as follows:**

The term "column" as used herein refers to a tube and the packing, i. e. a solid support, contained within. According to the present invention, the column is made of stainless steel, glass, ceramic, or a polymer, and has an internal diameter less than 200mm–20mm and a length comprised between 50 and 500 mm. The column can be provided within an ATREF system and is connected with a sample injector, a pump and a detector, and in particular a DRI detector. Also, the column is provided within a temperature controlling means.